

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
INDIANA COMMISSION ON AUTISM**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency  
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

**October, 2003**

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# **INDIANA COMMISSION ON AUTISM**

## **Membership Roster**

### **Senators**

Kent Adams, Chairperson  
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Herbert Grulke  
Crown Point

John Taylor  
Indianapolis

### **Staff**

Eliza Houston  
Attorney for the Commission

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.state.in.us/legislative/>.

## **I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE**

The Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation directing the Commission to do the following:

- (1) Study the service delivery system for individuals with autism and the families of individuals with autism, including the following:
  - (A) An analysis of the number of Indiana citizens believed to have autism.
  - (B) Funding amounts and sources.
  - (C) Types of expenditures and services provided.
  - (D) The number of clients served.
  - (E) Relationships among agencies and organizations.
  - (F) Residential options for individuals with autism.
- (2) Study the need and effectiveness of programs for individuals with autism.
- (3) Oversee and update the development of a comprehensive plan for services for individuals of all ages with autism, including an interagency cooperation agreement among the following:
  - (A) The department of education.
  - (B) The division of mental health and addiction.
  - (C) The division of family and children.
  - (D) The division of disability, aging, and rehabilitative services.
  - (E) Any other appropriate agencies.

The Legislative Council did not assign any specific topics to the Commission for the 2003 interim.

## **II. INTRODUCTION and INFORMATION**

The Commission met two times during the 2003 interim session on September 26, 2003 and October 24, 2003.

The Commission is not required to file a final report.

The Commission received an update on: (a) recent work of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism; (b) information on the Needs Assessment Survey; (c) information concerning teacher training requirements in working with children with special needs; (d) Autism Community Together; (e) the support services waiver and the autism waiver, including information on availability of Medicaid waivers and waiver waiting lists; (f) the Medicaid review process; and (g) information on a soft drink tax.